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A new *Atriplex*.

BY GEORGE E. OSTERHOUT.

Growing in the saline soil of the elevated table-lands of Colorado and Wyoming is a small shrubby *Atriplex*, which appears to be undescribed, and to which I assign the name

ATRIPLEX FRUTICULOSA.

A scurvy canescent decumbent shrubby perennial, 2-4 dm. in length, the ends of the branches ascending and the annual growths for the most part bearing the flowers and fruit. Leaves spatulate to oblanceolate, nearly sessile, obtuse or subacute at the apex, narrowed from above the middle to the base, 3-6 mm. wide by 1.5-3 cm. long, with many smaller leaves toward the base: flowers dioecious, both kinds in capitate clusters from the axils of the upper leaves: staminate branches often becoming spicate, and the flowers often brown in color, about 10 in a cluster: pistillate flowers green, and about 5 in a cluster; bracts of the pistillate flowers oblong, united to the top, 2 mm. wide by 3 mm. long; fruiting bracts oblong, 3-3.5 mm. wide by 5-6 mm. long, a little broader at the top, rounded at the base, usually 3-toothed at the apex, with the middle tooth largest; the sides are smooth and reticulated; radicle pointing upward.

The type was collected in July, 1896, near a small alkaline lake in southern Wyoming. Other plants which I collected in the same locality and in North Park, Colo., in September, 1897, are quite surely this species, but differ from the type in that the fruiting bracts are irregular, and some of them more or less muricate. On examination it was found that few of them had perfected seed, having suffered from the depredations of some insect, which probably accounts for the irregularity of the bracts. It was also collected by Mr. P. A. Rydberg near Green River, Wyoming, in July, 1895. I am indebted to Mr. Rydberg for comparing my specimens with those in the herbarium of Columbia University.